## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re II S	Patent Application of:	)		
Applicant(		) ) )	States Postal Service Mail Stop PATENT	ut this paper is being deposited with the Unite e as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.C ria, VA 22313-1450, on this pate.
Serial No.:		)	August 19, 2003 Date	Express Med Label fo.: EV 032734728 US
Filed:	August 19, 2003	)	Duie	Express Bad Labet 40 24 00000120
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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R.§§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office				Attorney Docket No.: 2500.68258 Serial No.:						
INFORMAT	ION DISCLOSURE CITA	ΓΙΟΝ		Applicant: Imamura et al.						
(Use several sheets if necessary)				Filing Date: 8-19-03		Group:				
U.S. PATEN	T DOCUMENTS	·				<b></b>				
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name Okawa et al.		Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate			
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			Translation					ion		
	Document Number	Date	Country		Class	Subclass	Yes	No		
	8-315342*	Nov. 29, 1996	Japan	<del></del>	Class	Subciass	Abs.	110		
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Examiner Date Considered										
*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.										

<sup>\*</sup>Corresponds to USPN 6,278,582

<sup>\*\*</sup>Corresponds to USPN 6,359,752